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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1905.

Work for Education.

The programme for the Lynchburg

meeting of the Co-operative Education

Commission possesses many attractive

features. The meetings will be in the

First Baptist Church of Lynchburg, and

will begin on Wednesday, November

23rd, at 3:30 P. M. After the appoint-

ment of standing committees addresses

of welcome will be delivered by Rev. Dr.

W. L. Pickard and Hon. Carter Glass,

and Governor Montague will make the

response. Dr. Robert Frazer, field agent

of the Southern Education Board, who

has done so much to forward the cause

of education, will give a resume of the

work and speak of the outlook.

The evening there will be devoted to

an address from President Alderman, of

the University.

On Thursday morning the programme

will be:

(a) Address, Rev. W. J. Beauchamp.

(b) General report of the secretary.

(c) Reports by delegates from local

associations.

(d) Citizen Associations in the East,

the West, the South; report, Miss Mar-

garet King, Mrs. A. H. Tuttle, Miss

Mark P. Duval.

The Pastor and the School: Address,

Rev. J. E. Hicks.

In the afternoon "The Training of

Teachers" will be the first topic, with

report by Professor W. H. Heck, Professor

A. P. Caffey, President J. L. Jarman,

Dr. George P. Phenix, Hon. F. T. West,

and discussion by Superintendent H. L.

Bridges, Superintendent E. McN. Cooley,

Colonel R. E. Lee, Jr.

The next topic will be "A Standard

Country School," report by Mr. Harris

Hart, Superintendent B. E. Copenhaver,

Superintendent G. G. Joyner, Colonel E.

W. Nichols, Superintendent R. C. Stearns;

discussion by Professor W. B. Alwood,

Mr. R. M. Gardner and Dr. A. C. Wight-

man.

The third topic will be Libraries; re-

port by Mr. J. P. Kennedy, Mrs. B. B.

Munford, Mr. W. S. Copeland, Dr. W. B.

Lane, Dr. R. G. Waterhouse; discussion

by Dr. J. Gray McAllister and Mr. Ernest

Shawen.

Friday's programme will include "Effi-

cient Supervision." (a) Report—Super-

intendent-elect of Public Instruction,

Superintendent J. W. Everett, Mr. W. A.

Jenkins, Dr. F. V. N. Palmer, Superin-

tendent J. H. Saunders. (b) Discussion—

Dr. C. W. Kent, Superintendent G. H.

Hulvey, Mr. Charles G. Maphis. 3. Open

Forum of Superintendents—Short talks

from all, showing their encouragements,

their difficulties, and how the people may

further their work. 4. Compulsory Edu-

cation—(a) Report, Mr. Roswell Page,

Major James H. Dooler, Hon. J. Taylor

Ellyson, Mr. J. Shelby Thomas, Captain

Menhaj Woods. (b) Discussion, Dr. R.

E. Blackwell, Superintendent William M.

Davidson. 5. High Schools—(a) Report,

Dr. Bruce R. Payne, Rev. James Cannon,

Jr., Superintendent E. C. Glass, Mr. E.

H. Russell, Mr. Edgar Snyderstricker.

(b) Discussion, Superintendent William

B. Abbott, Jr., Dr. George H. Demmy. 2.

In What Definite Ways Can the Editors

Further the Present Educational Move-

ment in Virginia—(a) Report, Mr. A. B.

Williams, Mr. R. P. Barham, Mr. R. D.

Haislip, Mr. J. H. Lindsay, Mr. Herbert

Miley.

O, but talk is cheap, says the scoffer.

Is that so? Is talk cheap when busy

men quit their work and go miles from

home to say a word in season for a

cause in which they are interested?

Cheap or not, these meetings show that

many men and women in Virginia

are taking an unselfish interest in popu-

lar education, and that sort of interest

is bound to help the cause in which it

is enlisted.

Foresight or Hindsight?

Now that the Portsmouth treaty is

enough a thing of the past to have at-

tained a reasonable perspective those

papers which prophesied peace are fol-

lowing themselves upon their prescience.

Among such is the News-Leader, which

says in its Friday issue that it was "one

of the very few papers in the world to

maintain that the Japanese, instead of

suffering a diplomatic disaster, as the

general verdict was, had achieved a

triumph." It may be that our contem-

porary is right, but if there was any

general expression of sympathy for Japan

we have failed to observe it.

To be sure, from July the 21st until

September the 1st, the News-Leader

wrote voluminous editorials on the prob-

able outcome of the peace negotiations,

and though carefully avoiding making any

clear-cut forecast the whole trend of its

articles was that "as Japan had invaded

Elihu, it was in a position to insist

upon indemnification" (see News-Leader,

August 17th). By a coincidence on the

morning of the same day, after pointing

out that when Germany exacted its in-

demnity from France it was in possession

of Paris, while Japan had nothing but

some barren Siberian steppes and a rail-

road that could not be worth more than

some thirty or forty million dollars, The

Times-Dispatch said:

"Japan did not start out with any idea

of conquering Russia. Her avowed pur-

pose was to prevent Russian encroach-

ment. She has accomplished that pur-

pose. Russia agrees to abandon all the

rights she has acquired in Manchuria, to

give Japan control in Korea and to pre-

serve the open door in China. Japan is

not poor and she could well afford to

retire with these accomplishments with-

out receiving a dollar of reimbursement

beyond that which will come to her in-

cidental from Russia's abandonment of

her rights in Manchuria.

"We believe, however, that Japan

should have the island of Sakhalin. It

was hers originally, and she was de-

frauded out of it. It is an old score,

and we do not blame Japan for settling

it her own way."

This was twelve days before the treaty

was made.

Again, on August the 23d, The Times-

Dispatch said that in answer to Japan's

demand for further remuneration Russia

could, with absolute propriety, say: "You

have gained all you desired at the out-

set. An indemnity is impossible; neither

will we give it, nor can you enforce it."

Both of these forecasts were so abso-

lutely and literally justified by the ac-

tual terms of peace and the reasons

thereof, that when the treaty was signed

on August THE 29TH, it only remained

for The Times-Dispatch in its issue of Au-

gust the 30TH to point out that Japan

had acted with magnanimity and wis-

dom, and that the failure to receive an

indemnity was really a blessing in dis-

guise. It was all too plain for question

or argument, and yet the News-Leader

in its issues of August the 30TH-31ST

and September the 1st said, "What does

it mean? It may be weeks before we

know."

"The veil of mystery is not yet re-

vealed."

"We are not the prophet nor the son

of a prophet, yet the end in our opin-

ion is going to be that the bases of peace

is a cryptographic combination against

the Western power. We shall see what

we shall see in connection with this

matter."

Finally, on September the 4th, six days

after the terms of the treaty were made

public, the News-Leader published a very

sensible, though tardy commendation of

Japan's cause, saying that to have

pushed matters further would have been

folly!

By all means let the News-Leader

congratulate itself for seeing six days

after its occurrence the same fact that

The Times-Dispatch saw twelve days

before.

What to Do in Porto Rico.

In the very violence of the present

newspaper and political agitation in Porto

Rico against all things American, Mr.

Charles W. Tyler, who is now investi-

gating conditions in the island on behalf

of Harper's Weekly, sees presage of

a gradual swing in the other direc-

tion. The propagandists have become so

extreme that the judicious minded are

turning away from them. The personal

popularity of the Governor and Mrs.

Winthrop has also been of weight in

modifying the strongest anti-American

sentiment. In the present attitude of

thinking and fair-minded Porto Ricans,

there is not a little to justify the be-

lief that if Congress would take steps

to remove certain definite and not un-

reasonable causes of discontent, that hos-

tile sentiment might be very largely

eliminated.

Just what these leading causes of Porto

Rican discontent are we have indicated

to our readers in an earlier article. Mr.

Tyler concisely summarizes them under

three heads—the anomalous political con-

dition of the native islander; the loss

of a large part of the island's once flour-

ishing coffee trade, and an acute dis-

satisfaction with the type of official

whom this country has sent out there

as her representatives. There is to be

added, too, an insistent demand for the

repeal of those misguided laws restrict-

ing the land-holdings of corporations,

and "generally hampering corporation

activity just where such activity is

vitality important."

With Porto Rican complaints based on

such grounds as these, most sensible

Americans will feel inclined to sym-

pathize. Probably the wreck of the coffee

industry, caused partly by the great hur-

ricane shortly following the American

arrival and partly by vastly increased

outputs of Brazilian coffees, has done

more than any other single cause to bring

about the present low ebb of prosperity.

Exports of coffee from Porto Rico have

dropped from 20,000,000 pounds in 1896 to less

than 18,000,000 in 1904. As coffee formed

absolutely the backbone of native indus-

try, in which almost everybody was in-

terested, this loss has proved crushing.

Mr. Tyler earnestly advocates a rehabili-

tation of this industry by placing a small

import duty in the United States on all

foreign-grown coffee—a step which would

also have the effect of similarly promot-

ing activity in Hawaii and the Philip-

pines. "No matter how great," he says,

"the increase of the sugar-growing and

tobacco-growing and fruit-growing indus-

tries of Porto Rico may be, there can

never be prosperity for the great mass

of the people until coffee-growing is out

from under the dark cloud which now

hangs over it. Coffee is the poor man's

crop."

As to the type of American official en-

trusted with the island's administration,

there can be no doubt that in this, as in

every similar case, too great discretion

cannot be exercised in his selection; and,

unhappily, there is equally little doubt

that the home government has been

hitherto open to criticism on this score.

The question of the political status of

the Porto Rican is one too difficult to be

settled offhand. Certainly his present

position is distinctly anomalous. He is

neither citizen nor alien. He neither has

the privileges of American citizenship

as a natural right, nor can he acquire

them by taking out naturalization papers.

In the current Outlook, Mr. Hobart S.

Bird presents a strong argument in favor

of making Porto Rico into a self-gov-

erning territory, and possibly this is as

equitable a disposition of the island po-

litically as can be made. How this may

be decided, Congress is, of course, qualified

to decide. But our responsibility for the

island's welfare, in one way or another,

is hardly to be escaped. And since it is

evident that there are certain definite

causes now militating against Porto